## **PATENT**

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Melvin Park

Group Unit: 2881

Serial No.:

09/884,452

Examiner: Wells, Nikita

Filed on:

June 18, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 140-048

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATING A MATRIX-ASSISTED LASER DESORPTION/IONIZATION (MALDI) MASS SPECTROMETER

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks P.O. Box 1450

RECEIVED

Alexandria, VA 22313

MAR 0 8 2004

## PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136(a)

SIR:

It is respectfully requested that the time for responding to the Office Action dated August 25, 2003, be extended for a period of THREE (3) months from November 25, 2003 to and including February 25, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 25, 2004

David M. Hill Reg. No. 46,170

WARD & OLIVO

708 Third Avenue

New York, NY 10017

(212) 697-6262

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